REMARKS

The Office Action has been carefully considered.

Allowance of claims 1, 2, 4-8 and 14-17 is noted with appreciation. Claims 12, 14 and 15 have been considered as containing allowable subject matter. Claims 9-10 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Matchefts et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,330,600.

The Examiner referred to column 5, lines 30-50, column 6, lines 55-64, and column 8, lines 20-21, of Matchefts, as showing a first transmitting step of claims 9 and 10, column 5, lines 1-50, column 6, lines 55-64, and column 8, lines 20-21 of the reference as showing a second transmitting step and an updating or recording step, of claims 9 and 10, respectively. The Examiner referred to the same specific columns and lines of Matchefts as teaching the features of claim 11.

Matchefts et al. teaches a method for updating a memory storing configuration information of a network element in which a network element and a network manager are coupled to each other using a communications network. The network manager generates a plurality of traps of which a trap having a trap sequence number is received by the network manager to update a selected part of the memory if a received state variable does not match a stored state variable. The network manager initiates a database synchronization process for configuration information of the network element in response to the received trap which is out-of-sequence.

Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner that Matchefts et al. teaches all the limitations of Applicants' claims 9-11.

Matchefts et al. clearly fails to teach or suggest a relationship of the control procedures between the first monitoring device, the communications device and the second monitoring

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device as claimed in claims 9-11. Matchefts et al. clearly fails to teach or suggest a method of synchronizing databases of a plurality of monitoring devices in a communications system having a communications device, first and second monitoring devices for monitoring the communications device and a network connecting these devices where the communications device retains a network address of the second monitoring device and each monitoring device accommodates a database. Matchefts et al. clearly fails to suggest second transmitting steps of claims 9 and 10, respectively.

The Examiner suggests that a request for reading the network address as claimed can be equated functionally with the request number/equipment value. Contrary to Matchefts et al., a request for reading the network address of the second monitoring device is transmitted by the first monitoring device to the communications device. Matchefts et al. does not suggest transmitting a request for reading altered registered data recorded in the database of the second monitoring device, by the first monitoring device to the second monitoring device, using the network address of the second monitoring device from the communication device when the first monitoring device receives the network address of the second monitoring device from the communications device as set forth in claim 9. For example, in column 8, lines 20-21, Matchefts discloses "If the trap sequence update flag (TSU) is true at step 153, then network monitor 56 sets both TSN_{NC} and TSN_D to TSN_E at step 162"... This is not what Applicants claim.
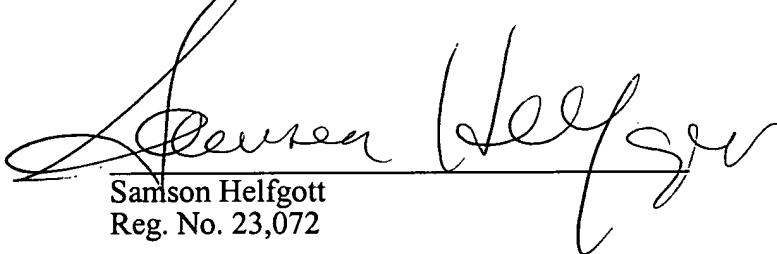
Regarding the rejection of claim 11, Applicants note that Matchefts et al. fails to teach or suggest the limitation "wherein, the control command transmitting unit transmits the control command with a network address of the first monitoring device from the first monitoring device to the communications device when the first monitoring device receives the control request from the operator".

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In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that claims 9-11 are patentably distinguishable over the art and these claims should be allowed, as well as claims 12, 14 and 15, dependent on claim 11.

In view of the amendments and remarks set forth above, this application is in condition for allowance which action is respectfully requested. However, if for any reason the Examiner should consider this application not to be in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned attorney at the number listed below prior to issuing a further Action.

Any fee due with this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-1290.

Respectfully submitted,

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